

39. The optical amplifier module of claim 24 further comprising an optical fiber storage area located within said internal housing.

40. The optical amplifier module of claim 37 wherein said optical fiber storage area includes at least one optical fiber spool around which optical fiber can be wound.

41. The optical amplifier module of claim 24 wherein said internal housing is formed from a pair of half units each including at least one of the retaining elements.

42. The optical amplifier module of claim 33 wherein said internal housing is formed from a pair of half units each including at least one of the retaining elements.

43. The optical amplifier module of claim 42 wherein each circuit board is located in a different one of the half units.

44. The optical amplifier module of claim 24 wherein said sidewall includes a pair of ribbed members extending longitudinally from the receptacle portion of the sidewall, said ribbed members each having a tension rod thru-hole extending laterally therethrough in the longitudinal direction for supporting a tension rod employed by the undersea optical fiber cable joint.

45 ~~44~~. The optical amplifier module of claim 24 wherein the outer dimension of the internal housing is less than about 15 cm x 50 cm.

46 ~~45~~. The optical amplifier module of claim 24 wherein the outer dimension of the internal housing is about 7.5 cm x 15 cm.